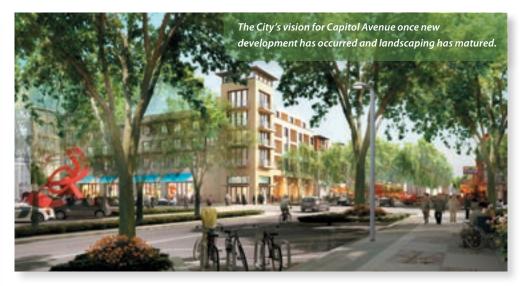




The Fremont Fire
Department has hired
11 new firefighters. The recruits
endured a rigorous 17-week
training academy which
began in August. Upon their
graduation on Dec. 13, the
newest members of the Fire
Department will be assigned to
one of 10 fire stations located
within the city of Fremont.
The last time the Fire
Department held an academy
was in 2007. Congratulations to
our newest firefighters!



## **Grant will Kick-Start Downtown Enhancements**

he City of Fremont was recently awarded a \$5.8 million One Bay Area Grant, commonly known as OBAG, from the Alameda County Transportation Commission and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. These funds will kick-start efforts to enhance pedestrian, bicycle, and auto connections between the Downtown and the Fremont BART Station. Capitol Avenue will be extended from State Street to Fremont Boulevard and will include bike lanes, diagonal parking, a landscaped median, and 10 foot to 15 foot sidewalks with street trees and additional landscaping. This will be the first stretch of Capitol Avenue—Downtown's future retail spine—where enhancements approved in the 2012 Downtown Community Plan will be showcased. Construction is slated to begin on the extension of Capitol Avenue in the summer of 2014. The grant award also includes improving connections from Capitol Avenue across Paseo Padre Parkway through the Gateway Plaza with new signage, improved bike and pedestrian paths, and additional landscaping. These improvements are slated to begin in late 2014/early 2015.

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**Volunteer Tax Assistance** 



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think it's safe to say that the City of Fremont has been enjoying its very own Renaissance period with the construction of the Warm Springs/South Fremont BART Station and the City's brand new Downtown underway.

There's been a significant rebirth of retail development. Whole Foods Market opened in September at the gateway to our new Downtown. And Pacific Commons, new home

to TJMaxx Home Goods, has recently opened The Block—a shopping and entertainment sub-district, which features a variety of new retailers, including Men's Wearhouse, Ulta, and Krispy Kreme, with The Habit and T-Mobile opening this month.

Speaking of shopping, you can help your City by "shopping Fremont" this holiday season as local purchases help the City's bottom line. And, if you're in the market for a vehicle, visit the Fremont Auto Mall and the new Tesla store on Fremont Boulevard. Purchasing a car in Fremont contributes much-needed revenue to the City via sales tax.

There's a reason Fremont ranked in two noteworthy lists recently—"Most Livable City" and "Happiest Mid-Sized City." Fremont has remarkable leadership in its management and a City Council with a sense of vision that's steadfast and unique for politicians. We're willing to take the risks and commit to something big, while staying true to our core principles and working with the community toward the ultimate solution.

We are turning the corner from the dark days of the greatest recession we've ever seen and are allocating funds for Fremont's future. Regarding our budget, we are weathering the storm and continue to monitor our fiscal outlook in a careful and prudent manner.

From five historic districts, each boasting its own charm, to developing a more urban core in the Downtown and South Fremont—we're a city of transformation. Keep your eyes on Fremont. Things are changing around here.

neil Fred Diaz, City Manager



n Friday, Sept. 13, the City dedicated and renamed the Fremont Police building to the Robert Wasserman Fremont Police Center. This newly named building is located at 2000 Stevenson Blvd. Robert Wasserman began his civil service career in 1954. In 1976 he was hired as Fremont's chief of police and served until his retirement in 1992. Later that same year he was elected to the Fremont City Council and served as mayor from 2004 until he passed away on Dec. 29, 2011.

## **Community Survey**

he City has once again contracted with research firm FM3 to conduct random telephone outreach for our annual survey of Fremont residents. Like last year, this community survey will help us get a better idea of how residents feel about Fremont, the various City services we provide, as well as other priorities. For those residents who participated in the random telephone survey, we thank you for your time. The survey results, which will be released before the end of this year, will help us to continue to re-evaluate our organization and improve what we do for you. The results of last year's survey are posted on our website at Fremont.gov/CommunitySurvey.



The City Council meets the first, second, and third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 3300 Capitol Ave.

Meetings are broadcast over Cable TV Channel 27 or webcast online at Fremont.gov/Webcasts.

Sign up for our news at Fremont.gov/eNews

### **CONNECT WITH US!**

Follow the City and many of its departments on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Google+, LinkedIn, and Nixle-we will keep you posted on everything from community events, new business openings, traffic updates, friendly tips, and other City-related information that may help you and your family. Fremont.gov/Social Media

City Council\* Bill Harrison Mayor

Anu Natarajan Vice Mayor

Suzanne Lee Chan Vinnie Bacon Rai Salwan

\* A new Vice Mayor will rotate in early December. **City Manager** Fred Diaz

**Fremont City News** Cheryl Golden, Managing Editor

Fremont City News is printed on recycled paper with soy inks.

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**City Email** cof@fremont.gov

**City Website** www.fremont.gov

























# City Highlights

# **City's Small Businesses** Have a New Ally



he City has created a new point of contact for everything small-business related. As the new Small Business Ally, Jackie Hall will serve as the City's

Development Services "concierge." With more than 17 years of experience serving the City of Fremont, she is certainly an excellent fit for the position.

In her new role as the City's Small Business Ally, Jackie will assist small businesses with the

- Facilitating project reviews and permits.
- Helping businesses with internal City/ outside agency contacts and resources.
- Tailoring and streamlining permit processes.
- Coordinating with the City's Office of Economic Development, the Fremont Chamber of Commerce, and other business organizations.

Jackie has conducted initial outreach with the Fremont Chamber of Commerce and with several Business Associations to introduce herself and the Small Business Ally program. She will continue to work with these groups and is eager to assist businesses in meeting their needs.

If you need assistance or have questions about the Small Business Ally program, contact Jackie Hall at jhall@fremont.gov or 494-4487.

## **Trade Mission** to India Creates **Opportunities for Fremont**

- he City of Fremont led a trade mission delegation to India in November 2013. The delegation consisted of elected officials/City staff, Ohlone College/Biotech industry, the Center for International Trade Development, and business partners representing IT Management and Consulting and Manufacturing. The expected outcomes from this trip are:
- Open doors for Fremont companies who desire a larger market presence in India and training opportunities to expand their global footprint.
- Connect with Indian companies who wish to establish a presence in Silicon Valley with job creation.



- Connect with Indian investors who are looking for Silicon Valley/ Fremont projects.
- Establish a reciprocal trade mission to provide on-going opportunities for business collaboration.
- Establish partnerships with educational institutions.

The trade mission seeks to highlight the favorable business environment in Fremont/Silicon Valley and to facilitate face-to-face meetings with potential business partners, training/ educational partners, government entities, investors, and others.

## Information Technology Strategic Plan

On Sept. 17, the City of Fremont's first Information Technology Strategic Plan was presented to the City Council. It is a five-year roadmap for providing technological resources to residents and City employees. The IT Strategic Plan marks a significant moment for Fremont. The City's first priority has always been its residents. By embracing new technology and being proactive, this initiative will improve accessibility and open up communication between the City and its residents. Plus, it is further validation that Fremont is an innovative city to look out for. To view the full Plan, please visit Fremont.gov/ITStrategicPlan.

### City Services At-A-Glance

**Animal Services** AnimalServices@fremont.gov 790-6630 **Building and Safety** 

bldg\_sfty@fremont.gov 494-4400 **City Attorney** 

attyoffice@fremont.gov 284-4030

cclerk@fremont.gov 284-4060

**City Manager** cof@fremont.gov 284-4000

**Community Preservation** code\_enf@fremont.gov 494-4430

**Economic Development** econdev@fremont.gov 284-4020

**Engineering** eng@fremont.gov 494-4700

**Environmental Services** environment@fremont.gov 494-4570

**Finance** 

finance@fremont.gov 494-4610

**Fire Department** fire@fremont.gov 494-4200

gis@fremont.gov 494-4800

housing@fremont.gov 494-4500

**Human Resources** jobs@fremont.gov 494-4660

**Human Services** hs@fremont.gov 574-2050

**Maintenance Services** maint@fremont.gov 979-5700

planning@fremont.gov

494-4440 **Police Department** 

police@fremont.gov . 790-6800

**Recreation Services** RegeRec@fremont.gov 494-4300

**Transportation Engineering** traffic@fremont.gov 494-4745

# Our Community

# Celebrating Fremont, Our Historic Districts

The next historic district that we would like to showcase in our City News column is **Centerville.** 

Centerville (originally known as "Centreville") first found its roots in 1850 when a squatter by the name of Captain George Bond exhibited some good old Western entrepreneurship and started charging a toll for miners to cross the Ford at Alameda Creek.

Today, Centerville is home to many of the City's festive events throughout the year. The Centerville Business and Community Association (CBCA) hosts a Christmas tree lighting ceremony that takes place at the landmark Centerville Train Station. And, did you know that some form of a Centerville business association has been meeting since 1909? Visit the CBCA website

at CBCAFremont.com to learn more about the dedicated group of individuals and businesses that promotes all things Centerville.

And let's not forget about Centerville's Farmers' Market, located next to the historic Centerville Depot at Bonde Way and Fremont Boulevard that is currently held every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Centerville's version of the Farmers' Market has a different sort of flair compared to traditional farmers' markets. It features the exotic tastes and smells of the Far East, offering produce such as opu melon to Malabar spinach to gai lan, balut and countless others. But don't worry—they have heirloom tomatoes and apples there too.

Plus, in the works for Centerville is a high-quality mixed-use project known as "Artist Walk." Artist Walk would include five modern-looking buildings with a total of 185 residential apartment units and 28,000 square

feet of retail space, enhanced plazas, a through street ("Artist Walk"), and a privately-owned and operated community room that would be made available to the broader Centerville community for art exhibits, cultural displays, fundraisers, and small presentations/music events.

To learn more about what Centerville has to offer, be sure to visit it for yourself and check out the section in the City's General Plan Update for more details at Fremont.gov/CentervilleGP.



Photo by Joshua Chien of Josie, Jacob and Joelle



## Century Village Gets a Facelift

We're happy to announce that a major eight-month-long overhaul of the 100-unit Century Village housing complex, located at the corner of Driscoll Road and Paseo Padre Parkway, is complete. The affordable housing complex, built in the early 1970s, was in need of a variety of critical repairs and functional upgrades. That's when MidPen Housing, the nonprofit developer that owns Century Village, came in and developed a refinancing plan that generated enough capital to complete the renovation. In fact, there was no out-of-pocket cost to the City of Fremont. Now you're looking at an attractive apartment complex that is not only a more pleasant place to live, but also an asset to the neighborhood and the community.

## Habitat for Humanity to Build New Homes in Fremont

magine a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Habitat for Humanity, an internationally-recognized nonprofit that builds and repairs housing with volunteer labor and donations, is striving to make that vision a reality. The organization recently purchased 1.1 acres of surplus property at 4369 Central Ave. from the City of Fremont. Habitat for Humanity will use this land to build affordable townhomes for low-income families. Look for future announcements regarding volunteer opportunities.























# Winter Break Day Camps Can Save You this Holiday Season

With winter break right around the corner, your kids are probably starting to get antsy and restless. Slow down, take a breath, and don't panic—we've got a solution for you.

Whether you just need a few hours of childcare a day to run errands and prepare for the upcoming holidays, or if you'd prefer a full day option, the City of Fremont's Recreation Division has got you covered. Starting Dec. 23, 2013 through Jan. 3, 2014, we are offering academic camps, "just for fun" camps, and everything in between for children between the ages of four and 14.

Camps held at Central Park have an option to add extended morning care (8 a.m. to 9 a.m.) and afternoon care (3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.). Registration is already under way, so please do yourself and your kids a favor by signing up today! For more information, please see your Late Fall Recreation Guide, visit Fremont.gov/ DayCamps, or call the Recreation Service Team at 494-4300.

# Student Safety at the Fremont Boulevard and Alder Avenue Intersection

We take the safety of Fremont residents very seriously. That's why plans are under way to improve the intersection of Fremont Boulevard and Alder Avenue, which is located next to American High School and two blocks away from Oliveira Elementary School. The intersection is a major crossing point for students riding bicycles or walking to the two schools. When you combine high vehicular traffic with close to 500 pedestrian crossings at peak hours, this intersection is poised for improvements.

Our hope is that removal of the pedestrian corner islands and expansion of the corner sidewalks will help to slow down right-turning vehicles and ensure the safety of pedestrians crossing at the intersection. We will also be installing new pedestrian countdown signals, audible and tactile push buttons, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) curb ramps, new bicycle detection, and we'll be upgrading the entire traffic signal system. You can expect construction work to begin in the summer of 2014. The project is funded by Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program grant funds and Alameda County's Measure B sales tax dollars. For information, contact Rene Dalton at rdalton@fremont.gov or 494-4535.

# Fremont Benefits from National Flood Insurance Program

verybody likes a win-win situation, and the City of
Fremont is no exception. The City has been a member of
the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) since 1983. By
being a member, Fremont adopts and enforces a floodplain management ordinance to reduce flood risks for properties within Special Flood
Hazard Areas. In turn, NFIP provides opportunities for property owners
to purchase flood insurance for participating communities, which would
otherwise be unavailable to property owners. In addition to participating in
NFIP, Fremont is also part of a voluntary program called Community Rating
System (CRS). Fremont entered into CRS in 2001 and has a rating of 7 out of
10, exceeding NFIP's minimum standards. So what does this mean for you?
The City's stellar rating provides a 15 percent discount on flood insurance
policies within the Special Flood Hazard Area and provides a 5 percent
discount for other policies.

To learn more about the benefits of NFIP, flood insurance requirements, or to inquire whether a property is within a Special Flood Hazard Area, visit FEMA's website at Fema.gov or the City's website at Fremont.gov/FloodInfo. If you would like to access FEMA maps on the GIS database visit MSC.Fema.gov or Fremont.gov/GISMapRoom. You can also contact the City's Engineering Division at floodinfo@fremont.gov or 494-4718.

# Our Community



overed California is the state's new online marketplace for the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

This new health insurance marketplace will make it possible for individuals, families, and small businesses to have access to affordable health insurance plans.

With open enrollment under way since Oct. 1 and coverage starting Jan. 1, 2014, Covered California can assist all legal residents of California who do not have health insurance to shop and compare high quality plans online. Many individuals and families will be eligible, based on income, for premium assistance, or for low-cost or no-cost Medi-Cal. Consumers can choose the plan that works best for their health needs and budget. Also, by law, individuals can no longer be denied coverage or charged more for the existence of a pre-existing medical condition.

Small businesses can now purchase competitively priced health insurance plans, offer their employees the ability to choose from an array of different plans, as well as determine whether they qualify for federal tax credits. For more information on Covered California, visit CoveredCA.com or call (800) 300-1506.

### We're Here to Help

The City's Human Services Department and the Fremont Family Resource Center can provide information as well as assist individuals and families in enrolling for coverage. The Fremont FRC and partner agency Fremont Healthy Start/East Bay Agency for Children will also be scheduling several informational events that will provide on-site multi-lingual enrollment assistance. For more information call 574-2000 or 656-4206 ext. 109. And if you're interested in updates on Covered California, please "Like" the Fremont FRC on Facebook at Facebook.com/FremontFRC.



The FRC VITA will open Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2014 and continue every Monday and Wednesday, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., and Friday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., through April 14, 2014 (closed Feb. 17 for Presidents Day).

# Volunteer Income Tax Assistance— 12 Years Helping Fremont Families

he Fremont Family Resource Center's (FRC) VITA program will begin its 12th year with the 2013 tax season, offering free in-person and/or drop-off tax preparation services. The VITA program falls under SparkPoint Fremont, a one-stop financial center whose mission is to help families become financially self-sufficient.

FRC VITA is the largest site in Northern California and serves residents living in the Tri-City area. All tax returns are prepared and reviewed by trained IRS-certified Volunteer Tax Preparers. FRC VITA is a partner with the "Earn It! Keep It! Save It!" (EKS) Campaign, coordinated by the United Way of the Bay Area.

In addition to tax preparation services, the FRC VITA site connects customers to services, such as financial coaching, financial education, asset building, and credit repair, helping individuals and families improve their financial

condition. Since 2002, FRC VITA has served over 13,000 taxpayers returning in excess of \$21 million in refunds. Qualified families and individuals making \$52,000 or less are eligible for free tax preparation and e-filing.

If eligible, please visit the Fremont FRC, located at 39155 Liberty St., Building EFGH, to have your income taxes prepared free of charge. Remote sites will be located at Newark Library (6300 Civic Terrace Ave. in Newark), Union City Library (34007 Alvarado-Niles Rd. in Union City), Holly Community Center (31600 Alvarado Blvd., in Union City), and Tri City Volunteers (37350 Joseph St. in Fremont) by appointment only contact Sara Govea at 793-4583 to schedule.

For more information, please call the City's Carolyn Robertson at 574-2020, or visit Fremont.gov/SparkPointFRC.



























## **Business Spotlight on Fremont**

# Highlights of National Manufacturing Day and Cleantech Open Competition

his fall, the City was fortunate to partner on a series of events, all of which each helped position Fremont as a leader in advanced manufacturing, innovation, and technology. September kicked off with Fremont hosting the Silicon Valley Manufacturing Roundtable's fall meeting at one of our largest manufacturing facilities, located at 901 Page Ave. The Roundtable is a consortium of cities, workforce agencies, educational institutions, and manufacturers who convene quarterly with the goal of advancing the manufacturing industry in our region. The meeting included a presentation from the Governor's Office of Economic Development about new State economic incentives for manufacturing.

In October, Fremont celebrated 'Silicon Valley Manufacturing Week,' culminating with National Manufacturing Day on Oct.4. The intent of this event is to raise awareness of manufacturing in the region and to expose people, especially students, to the potential for careers in manufacturing. Several Fremont companies participated and opened their doors for tours and presentations, including Western Digital, CalWeld, and Biolytic. Each business also hosted student groups from institutions such as Ohlone College, DeVry, and Mission Valley ROP, as part of their event. In addition, the City of Fremont hosted an event in honor of Manufacturing Week at RK Logistics, the site of Fremont's new Foreign Trade Zone facility, which will provide significant benefits to Fremont businesses as they import/export goods. For more information about the new Foreign Trade Zone facility, visit Fremont.gov/FTZ.

The City then pivoted in mid-October to serve as host of the Cleantech Open 2013 Western Regional Awards. Cleantech Open is a national accelerator program for clean technologies and works to identify and fund entrepreneurs with disruptive solutions to environmental challenges. The event included two days of startup pitches, judging, networking, thought leadership, and awards. Also included in the audience were cleantech investors, who were optimistic about the potential for future deals, which suggests a bright future for Fremont, already a cleantech hub. Woven throughout the event was the theme that government, and Fremont in particular, considers itself a partner with these businesses in helping them reach their goals for growth. It was an event that yielded very positive results for the City, not the least of which was further solidifying the City's business-friendly reputation.



# Natural Gas Transmission Pipeline Replacement Project

he City of Fremont is getting an upgrade. Starting in Spring 2014, PG&E will replace more than 13,400 feet of Line 131 natural gas transmission pipeline in Fremont. Line 131, which traverses Mission San Jose and Irvington, was constructed in the 1940s and is a high priority for PG&E to remove from service. PG&E will replace the capacity of Line 131 by expanding sections of Line 107 with a new larger 36-inch line. PG&E plans to construct the project in two phases. The first phase will install approximately 10,200 feet of 36-inch pipe starting near Fremont Blvd. and Auto Mall Pkwy. heading west along the south side of Auto Mall Pkwy. on private property. Just before Grimmer Blvd. it turns northwest and travels under the Grimmer/Auto Mall intersection and then turns north under the western edge of Grimmer Blvd. until it reaches a PG&E easement area at which it turns west again in the easement, passes under Interstate 880 until it reaches the PG&E gas facility on the west side of I-880. The next phase will install approximately 4,400 feet of 36-inch pipe from PG&E's Mission Station (southeast of Palm Ave. and Mission Blvd.) heading north up the hillside past Vargas Creek. After completion of the expansion of Line 107, Line 131 will be retired, cleaned, and abandoned.

PG&E will provide traffic assistance to guide motorists around temporary road closures during street construction. Gas service is expected to continue without interruption throughout the construction. To ensure residents stay informed throughout the entire process, PG&E will send letters and provide pamphlets and fact sheets detailing this work. For information, visit PGE.com/Safety or call them with any questions or concerns at 1-800-743-5000.

REMINDER: If you ever smell natural gas in your home, open your windows and evacuate the building. Using a phone away from the building, call 9-1-1 and PG&E at 1-800-743-5000.



# Fremont Unified School District

Offices 4210 Technology Drive, Fremont, CA 94538 Phone 657-2350

# A FUSD **District** Principals' **Snapshot:** Then and Now

Evidence of the Fremont Unified School District's commitment to, "Educate, Challenge, and Inspire", is seen through the career pathways of five community leaders, all FUSD graduates. Each of them was educated in Fremont, challenged by the district's exemplary teachers and staff, which in turn inspired this talented group to become teachers themselves. The cycle of pride in Fremont has come full circle through their work as principals at Fremont's five comprehensive high schools, enabling them to give back to the community and to instill that same support, inspiration, and drive for success in every student. These FUSD alumni and their many accomplishments represent the future of innovative thinking and academic success for generations of Fremont students to come. To fully appreciate the paths that each of these alumni have taken, here is a snapshot of the past and the present; then and now:



Principal Sarah Smoot was deeply involved in drama during her years at Kennedy High School, the kind on stage, of course. She was always typecast in roles playing a child, which explains her ability to hit notes that could make Mariah Carey jealous. Principal Smoot credits her fond memories as a Fremont student to the nurturing environment provided by teachers and faculty. She continues to work to cultivate that caring and creative environment at Irvington High School today.



Principal Bob Moran began his education at Fremont's Tom Maloney Elementary School, graduating 13 years later from Washington High School. Principal Moran cites the principals he encountered throughout his academic career as inspiration because, "As a kid you felt safe at the schools they were running," something he works to continue at WHS. Not allowing his senior photo to hold him back, Principal Moran is now working on perfecting his look as the quintessential high school principal (minus the Arnold Poindexter flair).



Principal Greg Bailey is a graduate of American High School, where he fondly remembers the open classrooms, which conveniently made it difficult to hear when homework was assigned. Principal Bailey made his mark in high school playing "The Heat Miser," donning red tights in the senior skit. School pride is an area of focus for Principal Bailey, as he firmly believes a strong school culture enriches the academic experience for students.



Principal Eddie Velez is a native of Fremont and a graduate of American High School. In high school his goal was to become the next Larry Bird, though he never scored the coveted #33 jersey. Instead, he has applied his leadership skills to his duties as an educator, and now as principal at John F. Kennedy High School. Principal Velez reflects on his time in a Fremont high school as a positive experience where students felt accomplished, an environment he wants to cultivate (along with finally attaining the much coveted KHS #33 basketball jersey).



Principal Zack Larsen is a Mission San Jose High graduate and the son of two Fremont educators, something he tried to downplay during his years as a student. Though Principal Larsen was a good student, he once had a laughing fit in a World History class that lasted so long he almost made it in the Guinness World Records. Upon entering his office for the first time as Principal, Mr. Larsen reflected on the positive and rich academic experience he had as a student, a practice he plans to continue.

### **Fremont Fun Facts**

Fremont Unified Graduates Currently Teaching in FUSD High Schools

American High – has 13 FUSD graduates teaching, 7 of which graduated from American

Irvington High – has 21 FUSD graduates teaching, 7 of which graduated from Irvington

Kennedy High – has 22 FUSD graduates teaching, 8 of which graduated from Kennedy

Mission SJ High – has 13 FUSD graduates teaching, 8 of which graduated from Mission

Washington High - has 22 FUSD graduates teaching, 8 of which graduated from Washington





























Email environment@fremont.gov Phone 494-4570



## Just Say 'No' to Littering

- lease help us keep the City of Fremont beautiful by doing your part to prevent litter. It just takes one person, one school, one business, one organization to positively impact the behavior of others in our community. Here's how you can help:
- Choose not to litter. Make the commitment now to not be a litter-bug.
- Remind others not to litter and why.
- Volunteer to help prevent and clean up litter—from cigarette butts to illegal dumps.

A clean community can discourage littering and enhance the appearance of our city. To learn more about upcoming clean-up efforts in Fremont, please contact the City's Environmental Services Division at 494-4570.







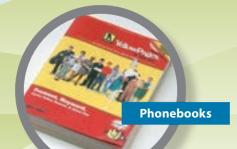


# **Don't Trash Your Recycling**

he materials that belong in your grey recycling bin are bottles, cans, jars, paper, cardboard, and plastic containers #1-7 (excluding Styrofoam™). Recently, an audit of Fremont's residential materials revealed an unacceptable amount of contamination including garbage, clothing, shoes, luggage, yard trimmings, and other non-recyclable materials. The City will be conducting inspections and providing outreach to homeowners to improve the quality of the recycling. Please do your part to keep trash and other non-recyclable items out of your grey recycling bin. If you have guestions regarding Fremont's program visit Fremont.gov/Environment or call 494-4570.









Email environment@fremont.gov

# **Proposed Household Hazardous Waste Program Improvements** and Fee

lease help us ensure that safe, legal, environmentally-sound disposal options for household hazardous waste (HHW) exist by supporting the proposed household hazardous waste improvement program.

In February, the Alameda County Waste Management Authority Board will consider approving an annual fee on each dwelling unit. The proposed fee of less than \$10 per year would be additional funding to sustain collection hours at HHW facilities and pay for drop-off events. Currently, the countywide household hazardous waste collection program is paid for through a per ton fee on municipal solid waste disposed in landfills. This fee has remained the same since 2000, whereas costs to administer, collect, dispose, or recycle household hazardous waste has steadily increased.

Without drop-off events or convenient hours of operation at HHW facilities, there is concern that waste will be illegally and improperly disposed of (i.e., abandoned on streets, poured down drains, placed in garbage or recycling bins). Improper disposal often pollutes our waterways, detracts from property values, and forces the community to pay for clean-up through street maintenance, wastewater or stormwater budgets, or expenses to private property owners.

Fremont has benefited from these programs by servicing more than 61,907 households and collecting approximately 4,365,807 pounds of household hazardous waste since 2008.

To learn more about the proposed program improvements and fee, visit StopWaste.org or email your questions and/or comments to hhwproject@stopwaste.org.



## Meet Rachel DiFranco

### Fremont's New Sustainability Coordinator

nvironmental sustainability is one of the City's highest priorities. From the Climate Action Plan recently adopted by the City Council, to the newly-created Environmental Sustainability Commission, to the City's recent role as host of the Cleantech Open Western Regional

Awards, Fremont is taking on a growing leadership role in the sustainability realm. And to keep this forward momentum going, the City has hired Rachel DiFranco, a Fremont native, as its new Sustainability Coordinator. In this new position, Rachel will assist with the following:

- Oversee implementation of the Climate Action Plan
- Coordinate and promote energy efficiency efforts in the community
- Identify and implement opportunities for emission reductions in City operations
- Provide staff assistance to the Environmental Sustainability Commission

If you have questions about the City's sustainability programs, contact Rachel DiFranco at rdifranco@fremont.gov or 494-4451.

# **Coastal Cleanup Success**

ver 270 Fremont friends, families, school groups, scout groups, service clubs, and individuals participated in Coastal Cleanup Day, California's largest volunteer event dedicated to removing litter. The September event was a huge success volunteers managed to remove a total of 2,040 pounds of garbage and recycling from Fremont's creeks, parkland, flood control channels, and frontage roads. The most unusual item found during the cleanup was a large shell from a snapping turtle!

We'd especially like to thank Starbucks Coffee and Chipotle Mexican Grill for their generous donations to the event, as well as the volunteers and staff that make this event possible each year.



Fremont residents give back to their community.























Coupon for Boy Scout Pickup (cut along dotted line)	Nearest Cross Street:
Please include all information requested on the coupon.	Phone:
Mail coupon to: <b>BSA Holiday Trees,</b> Mike Whittaker, 2356 Night Shade Lane, Fremont, CA 94539	Location of Tree:
Name:	
Address:	Make check or money order payable to:
	Boy Scouts of America and mark the following:
Apt. No (if applicable)	☐ \$5 compostable tree or ☐ \$10 non-compostable tre

# **Christmas Tree Composting**

ach year Fremont residents buy thousands of Christmas trees that could end up in landfills if they are not properly composted. You can reduce the environmental impact of the holiday season by purchasing and then planting a live tree, using an artificial (reusable) tree, or having Republic Services pick up your tree at the curb (if you have curbside service) to compost the tree. Cut, live trees are compostable if they are free of all decorations, tinsel, nails, and tree stands (including the wooden kind, nailed to the bottom of the trunk). Any tree that is flocked, contains fire retardant, decorations, or tinsel cannot be composted and will be disposed of in the landfill. There are three different ways you can compost your cut tree in Fremont:

## 1. Republic Services Curbside Pickup Service

**Who:** Fremont residents who have curbside yardwaste, recycling, and garbage service with Republic Services.

**When: Dec. 30, 2013 to Jan. 10, 2014,** on your scheduled collection day. *Remember, collection is one day late Jan. 1 to 4.* 

**Cost:** There is no extra charge for this service.

**How:** No need to call to request this service. Simply leave your tree out using one of the following methods:

### A. Green Organics Bin

- Cut compostable tree so pieces fit loosely in your organics bin with the lid closed.
- Place the bin at the curb on your scheduled collection day.

#### **B.** Gutter

- If your tree is less than 6 feet in length, place the whole tree in the gutter on your collection day.
- If your tree is over 6 feet in length, cut the tree in half and place both halves in the gutter on your collection day.
- Make sure your tree is in the gutter, not on the sidewalk.
- Make sure your tree is free of all decorations when placed in the gutter; this helps keep our storm drains litter free.
- **C. Garbage Bin** (Please use this only as the last option. Compost your tree first, if possible.)
- For a non-compostable tree, please cut it up so pieces fit loosely in your garbage bin with the lid closed.
- Place the bin at the curb on your scheduled collection day.

If you live in a multifamily complex please contact your property manager to learn how your tree can be properly composted.

# 2. Drop off at Republic Services Customer

### **Service Center**

**Who:** All Fremont residents (whether you have curbside service or not).

When: Dec. 30, 2013 to Jan. 31, 2014

(Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

**Cost:** Compostable trees may be dropped off for free; there is a \$5 charge to drop off a non-compostable tree.

**How:** Take your Christmas tree to the Republic Services Customer Service Center located at 42600 Boyce Rd. in Fremont.

If you have any questions regarding pick-up or drop-off service, call Republic Services at 657-3500.

### 3. Boy Scouts of America Pickup Service

Who: All Fremont residents.

When: Jan. 4, 2014

**Cost:** \$5 for compostable trees, \$10 for non-compostable trees. **How:** Please make arrangements (see information above) with the Boy Scouts to have your tree picked up outside your residence (apartments included).

All pick-up orders must be placed by **Thursday, Jan. 2, 2014,** using one of the following methods:

### A. Mail in the coupon at top

#### B. Call the City's Environmental Services Hotline

Please leave a phone registration message at 494-4580. The recorded message will prompt you for the necessary information. If you choose to have the Boy Scouts pick up your tree, please do not place it anywhere near the gutter or on the sidewalk. Instead, place your tree on your lawn, driveway, or other designated outdoor area (visible from the street) that you arrange with the Boy Scouts. Christmas Tree Composting information is also available at Fremont.gov/ChristmasTree.



ECRWSS

## **Residential Customer**



## The Fremont Fire Department is collecting Food & Toy Donations this Holiday Season.

Fremont's getting into the spirit of giving. The Fremont Fire Department is teaming up with Tri-City Volunteers to collect non-perishable food and new unwrapped toys at all 10 fire stations, including the Fire Department's main office, at 3300 Capitol Ave., Building A. For more information call the Fremont Fire Department at 494-4299.

